

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Director Hemmer-Haight led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

- Ray Lembke – Chair – Yes
- Rick Combs – Absent
- Gregg Conrad – Yes
- Richard Grant – Yes

Also present were Director Stephanie Hemmer-Haight, Deputy Director Chris Dennison and Administrative Assistant Cherie Wilson.

III. Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented

2023-87 – Mr. Grant made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

- Mr. Combs – Absent
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes

IV. Other Attendees – Julia Carney (Assistant County Prosecutor)

V. Public participation – none

VI. Board to Determine the Eligibility of Provisionals Ballots Cast in the August 8, 2023 Special Election (R.C. §3505.183)

<u>PROVISIONAL BALLOTS FOR BOARD REVIEW</u>		<u>Invalid</u>	<u>Valid</u>
1	Voted Provisional returned by Voter to Board Office on 8-10-23	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
1	No Current Address Information – says Homeless	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
1	No DOB	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
1	New Address in Another County	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
5	Wrong ID Written on Envelope	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
11	Voted Wrong Precinct/Wrong Location	<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>
40	Not Registered in Ohio	<u>40</u>	<u>0</u>
49	Did Not Have Valid ID	<u>49</u>	<u>0</u>
9	No ID Written on Envelope	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>
5	No Signature on Envelope	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total Provisional Ballots with Unresolved Issues	123	0
20	Voted Right Location/Wrong Precinct – Duplicate/Add to Good Count	<u>0</u>	<u>20</u>
446	VALID PROVISIONAL BALLOTS – NO VISIBLE PROBLEMS	<u>0</u>	<u>446</u>
589	TOTAL PROVISIONALS CAST		

The board discussed the voters who voted in the wrong location and asked about the incomplete provisional envelopes. The provisional template that was designed for prior elections is incompatible with the envelope changes from HB 458; some of the fields are now conditional.

2023-88 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to reject the 123 invalid provisional ballots for the reasons listed above. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

- Mr. Combs – Absent
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes

2023-89 – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the 466 valid provisional ballots and add them to the count for the official canvass. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

- Mr. Combs – Absent
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes

2023-90 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to allow the staff to open and count the valid provisional ballots. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Absent
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

VII. Motion to Allow Board Staff to Remake Absentee Ballots that Arrived After Election Day Where the Voter Marked the Entire Ballot Contrary to the Instructions (R.C. §3506.21)

There were no ballots meeting this criteria.

****REGULAR AUGUST MEETING OF THE BOARD****

VIII. Approval of Minutes

- July 19, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting and Public Test
- August 8, 2023 – Election Day Meeting

2023-91 – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept both sets of minutes. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Absent
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

IX. Approval of Bills as of August 16, 2023

2023-92 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of August 16, 2023. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Absent
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

X. Directors' report

- Election Review

Director Hemmer-Haight reported that there were 8047 in-office voters, including the curbside and hand-carried ballots. We mailed 4717 ballots; approximately 10% are still outstanding. Mr. Grant inquired about the Newtonsville turnout; we do not have voter history available yet.

Deputy Director Dennison indicated that the mail house processing was reasonably smooth; there was one batch of ballots printed with the stub on the wrong end. An issue with the barcodes on the identification envelopes resulted in 30% - 40% error rates with the Mail Ballot Verifier (MBV), requiring ballots to be updated by hand. After discussions with Graphic Village and ISD, we believe it is a quality control issue with the ink spray; ISD and mail house personnel will review the printing and MBV configurations prior to November to improve the quality control.

Mr. Lembke mentioned the issue with ballot perforations at the polls; the stubs were more difficult to tear off than in some elections. This was a problem with the ES&S ballot stock, which is used by the mail house and by our Election Day ballot vendor (IVS), as well as ballot-on-demand printing.

XI. Review of Election Equipment Allocation

2023-93 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to allocate one DS-200 optical scanner per precinct and one Express Vote per polling location pursuant to RC 3506.12(A). Mr. Grant seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:
Mr. Combs – Absent
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

XII. Motion to Outsource Printing and Mailing of Absentee Ballots

2023-94 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to outsource the printing and mailing of absentee ballots to Graphic Village for the November 2023 general election. Mr. Grant seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

- Mr. Combs – Absent
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes

XIII. Meeting & Special Dates

- August 21 (9:00 a.m.) – Open August official canvass and certify November petitions
- August 29 (9:00 a.m.) – Certification of August 8, 2023 special election
- September 6 – Open audit of August 8, 2023 special election
- September 8 (3:00 p.m.) – Certify audit of Aug 8, 2023 special election
- September 11-12 – DIMS conference sponsored by ES&S – Put-In-Bay, Ohio


The board discussed the possibility of giving the staff extra time off for the Labor Day weekend, in recognition of the extra effort required for the three elections this year. However, the issue was tabled until Mr. Combs can join the discussion.

XIV. Motion to Adjourn

2023-95 – At 9:56 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion.

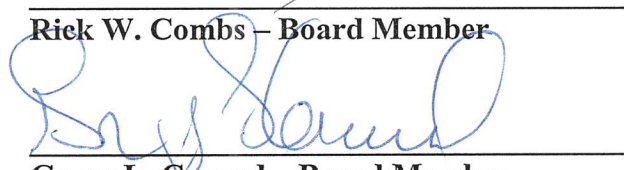
Upon roll call:

- Mr. Combs – Absent
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes



 Raymond W. Lembke – Board Chairman

 Rick W. Combs – Board Member



 Gregg L. Conrad – Board Member



 Rick Grant – Board Member

Date 9-20-23

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:44 PM
To: legals@clermontsun.com
Cc: Stephanie Haight
Subject: August Election Day Board Meeting
Attachments: 2023 August Special Election meetings.docx

Jamie,

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the August board meetings.

My direct phone number is 732-7485 if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Cherie Wilson, Administrative Support Specialist
Clermont County Board of Elections
76 S. Riverside Dr.
Batavia, OH 45103

Clermont County Board of Elections Notice of Board Meetings

The Clermont County Board of Elections has scheduled Board Meetings for

August 16, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. – Regular Monthly Board Meeting and mandatory meeting to review provisional ballots and mismarked absentee ballots received after Election Day

August 21, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. – Open Official Canvass for the August election and certify petitions for the November election

August 29, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. – Certify the August 2023 special election and certify write-in petitions for the November 2023 general election.

The meetings will be held at the Board Office, 76 S. Riverside Dr., Batavia, 45103.

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Stephanie Hemmer-Haight – Director